

**BETHEL AIRPORT  
BETHEL, ALASKA  
EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLAN**

The Bethel Airport has prepared this Emergency Contingency Plan pursuant to §42301 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. Questions regarding this plan can be directed to Dave Cummings at [david.cummings@alaska.gov](mailto:david.cummings@alaska.gov). Bethel Airport is filing this plan with the Department of Transportation because it is a commercial airport.

This plan describes how, following excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practicable, Bethel Airport will:

- Provide for the de-planement of passengers;
- Provide for the sharing of facilities and make gates available at the airport; and
- Provide a sterile area following excessive tarmac delays for passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs & Border Protection (CBP).

The Bethel Airport is located in Bethel, Alaska, a remote community with a population of 6,080 (2010 census) that is not connected to any road system. The Bethel community has very limited resources; this airport typically serves a single large air carrier aircraft three times daily at a private air carrier facility which only has equipment and resources for the single large air carrier aircraft (B737). There is no airport owned passenger terminal building, no FBO, nor any CBP personnel or facilities. The air carrier passenger facilities are privately operated, are typically only staffed during periods of air carrier activity, have very limited sterile areas and do not offer concessions or amenities. The airport has 24 hours of attendance/snow removal during the winter months but still requires advance coordination for ARFF availability. Given the lack of existing equipment, gates and jet-bridges, it is highly unlikely that a diverted aircraft would be able to de-plane passengers at this airport, except in the event of an emergency.

Bethel Airport strongly encourages aircraft operators to contact the airport at (907) 543-4495 for prior coordination of all unscheduled flights.

### **Airport Information**

Name of Airport: Bethel Airport

Name and title of person preparing the plan: Joshua Briggs Regional Safety and Security Officer

Preparer contact number: (907) 269-0754

Preparer contact e-mail: [joshua.briggs@alaska.gov](mailto:joshua.briggs@alaska.gov)

Date of submission of plan:         6/4/2012        

Airport Category: Non Hub

### **Contact Information**

In the event of diversion or other irregular operations events, aircraft operators should contact airport staff at (907) 543-4495 for assistance.

## **Plan to Provide for the De-planement of Passengers Following Excessive Tarmac Delays**

The Bethel Airport does not own or operate any of the equipment needed to safely de-plane passengers from air carrier aircraft and is, therefore, unable on its own to provide for the deplanement of passengers. Additionally airport personnel are not trained to assist in the deplanement of passengers using equipment owned or operated by air carriers or contract service providers. We will provide a list of airlines, ground handlers, fixed base operators and others who may have the necessary equipment and personnel to safely deplane passengers to airlines as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines experiencing excessive tarmac delays at the contact number listed above.

## **Plan to Provide for the Sharing of Facilities and Make Gates Available in an Emergency**

The gates and passenger terminal building at the Bethel Airport are under exclusive long-term lease to air carriers and are not controlled by the airport. We do not own, operate or control any passenger facilities. Due to the special circumstances at this Alaskan airport, the gates and passenger terminal building at Bethel Airport are exclusively owned by an individual air carrier, staffed only during periods of carrier activity, and are not controlled by the airport. We are unable to direct a tenant airline to accommodate another air carrier aircraft at its privately owned facility. We will provide a list of tenants who operate limited passenger facilities and may be able to provide assistance after receiving requests from airlines experiencing excessive tarmac delays at the contact number listed above.

## **Plan to Provide a Sterile Area for Passengers Who Have Not Cleared United States Customs and Border Protection**

Bethel Airport does not own or control any passenger facilities. Bethel does not have international passenger processing facilities. We will coordinate with local CBP and law enforcement officials to identify suitable areas and procedures for establishing a temporary sterile area into which international passengers on diverted aircraft who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection can be deplaned. Once these efforts are complete, we will coordinate with local CBP officials to develop procedures that will allow international passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection to be deplaned into these sterile areas to the extent practicable.

## **Public Access to the Emergency Contingency Plan**

The Bethel Airport will provide public access to its emergency contingency plan by posting in a conspicuous location on the Statewide Aviation website <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwdav/> .